CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method of providing a garment fit to a target consumer group comprising
2   the steps of:

3   determining common body types for the target consumer group;

4   establishing customized body measurement standards for each body type;

5   selecting at least one real fit model for each body type;

6   creating a sample garment in a range of sizes using grading rules;

7   checking each sample garment on a fit model selected for each size and body type;

8   preparing a block for each sample garment size and body type; and

9   using the block to provide a garment fit for a target consumer group.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein determining common body types for a target
2   consumer group includes research and quantitative and qualitative analysis of data about the
3   target consumer group.

1   3.   The method of claim 2, wherein the database is the Textile Technology
2   Corporation's Size USA data set.

1   4.   The method of claim 1, wherein body types are selected from the group
2   consisting of average, curvy, straight, pear-shaped, round, slim, hourglass, and combinations
3   thereof.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein design preferences are determined for the
2   target consumer group and used to prepare the sample garment.

1   6   The method of claim 1, wherein grading rules are selected from the group
2   consisting of applied grading rules, preferred grading rules, and combinations thereof.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, wherein the block is created from slopers and used to

2   prepare a starter pattern.

1   8.   The method of claim 1, wherein the target consumer group is selected from a

2   group consisting of an age group, ethnic group, gender, and combinations thereof.

1   9.   The method of claim 1, wherein the sample garment is initially applied to a fit

2   model of a specific size.

1   10.   The method of claim 9, wherein the specific size is the middle of the range of

2   sizes.

1   11.   The method of claim 1, wherein a real fit model is used to check sample

2   garment fit before the block is prepared.

1   12.   The method of claim 1, wherein grading rules are applied to the sample

2   garment after adjusting the sample garment to the selected real fit model.

1   13.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method is for production of the garment

2   at any scale.

1   14.   A system for preparing a custom fit garment comprising:

2   quantitative and qualitative data, including body point measurements about the target

3   consumer group used to establish customized body measurement standards;

4   a sample garment created from the customized body measurements standards;

5   a first real fit model with body measurements that fall within the customized body

6   measurement standards used to fit the sample garment;

7   one or more grading rules to create sample garments in a range of sizes for the target

8   consumer group; and

9   a second fit model selected from the target consumer group and used to perfect the fit

10   of the sample garment and prepare a custom fit garment.

1   15.   The system of claim 14, wherein quantitative and qualitative data comprise

2   physical and preferential data about the target consumer group selected from the group

3   consisting of an apparel-related database, market research, survey, questionnaire, interview,

4   focus group, and combinations thereof.

1   16.   The system of claim 14, wherein the sample garment incorporates desired fit

2   points and product attributes obtained from the target consumer group.

1   17.   The system of claim 14, wherein one or more grading rules are selected from

2   the group consisting of applied grading rules and preferred grading rules.

1   18.   The system of claim 14, wherein a first real fit model for each size in the size

2   range is used to fit the sample garment.

1   19.   The system of claim 14, wherein customized body measurement standards are

2   adjusted fittings with the first real fit model.

1   20.   The system of claim 14, wherein the custom fit garment is used to establish

2   slopers, blocks, and patterns for production of the custom fit garment.

1   21.   The system of claim 20, wherein the production is selected from the group

2   consisting of small-scale, medium-scale, and large-scale.

1   22.   A method of providing a custom fit garment comprising the steps of:

2   selecting a target group based on at least one criteria;

3   conducting research about the target group to obtain data;

4   identifying at least one body type from the data;

5   providing size groupings for each body type;

6   establishing customized body measurement standards for each size grouping;

7   selecting a size in the middle of the size grouping to create a sample garment;

8   checking fit of sample garment on a real fit model with body measurements that
9   conform with the customized body measurement standards;

10   applying grading rules to the sample garment to obtain sample garments for the entire
11   size grouping;

12   checking fit at selected sizes using a real fit model for each size; and

13   creating a custom fit garment at each size and body type after fits are checked.

1   23.   The method of claim 22, wherein fit is checked using individuals from the
2   target group.

1   24.   The method of claim 22, wherein the data is quantitative and qualitative.

1   25.   The method of claim 22, wherein grading rules are applied to two sizes above
2   and below the middle size after which the fit is checked on a real fit model.

1   26.   The method of claim 20, wherein adjustment to the fit require that the
2   customized body measurement standards be adjusted.

1   27.   Improved grading rules provided for a garment comprising:

2   applied grading rules that grades the garment up and down from a selected size; and

3   preferred grading rules, wherein fit of the garment is adjusted based on design and fit

4   preferences obtained from one or more potential wearers of the garment.

1   28.   A real fit model provided for fitting a garment, wherein the real fit model has

2   body measurements within customized body measurement standards established for a

3   particular body type and size.

1   29.   An improved method of fitting a garment comprising the steps of:

2   creating a first garment at a size that is in the middle of a size grouping for a

3   particular body type;

4   checking the fit of the first garment on a real fit model and making adjustments to the

5   first garment where fit is unsatisfactory, wherein the real fit model has body measurements

6   within customized body measurement standards for the particular body type and size;

7   using applied grading rules to obtain new sizes above and below the first garment

8   size;

9   rechecking the fit of one or more new sizes on a real fit model and adjusting the fit

10   when unsatisfactory; and

11   adjusting the customized body measurement standards when fit is unsatisfactory.

1   30.   The system of claim 14, wherein the custom fit garment is perfected after

2   fitting on one or more individuals selected from the target consumer group.